

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJECT: BUSINESS VISITOR - NORRIS CATTLE COMPANY

1. DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY NORRIS CATTLE COMPANY, DIVISION OF NORRIS GRAIN COMPANY. COMPANY IS REPUTEDLY A LARGE PRIVATELY OWNED ORGANIZATION PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION OF CATTLE, CEREAL GRAINS, CORN, SOYBEANS, AND PEANUTS. IT HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY GOE TO CONSIDER A PRODUCTION PROJECT IN THE NUBARIA CANAL AREA FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BEEF, MILK, AND GRAIN. MR. G. A. FURGASON, GENERAL MANAGER, MADE A PRELIMINARY TRIP TO EGYPT IN EARLY DECEMBER AND TALKED WITH NUMEROUS GOE OFFICIALS, INCLUDING TAHER AMIN AND SAYED MAREI, ABOUT THE PROJECT. FURGASON OUTLINED A SCHEME USING THE COMBINATION OF DAIRY, BEEF, AND CATTLE FARMING, WITH THE EGYPTIANS FURNISHING THE LAND AND WATER. THE PROJECT WOULD BE AN INVESTMENT.

2. IT APPEARS TO US THAT THIS IS THE SAME LAND FMC WAS DISCUSSING WITH EGYPTIANS. IN CONTRAST TO FMC, FURGASON IS TALKING MORE ABOUT STARTING WITH SMALL INITIAL PROJECT AND BUILDING UP SIZE OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS.

3. FURGASON IS PLANNING TO RETURN TO EGYPT ON MARCH 24 WITH VARIOUS PEOPLE WHO ARE TECHNICIANS IN BEEF, DAIRYING
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AND CROPS TO STUDY THE PROPOSED PROJECT IN DEPTH. DEPART-

MENT ADVISED THEM TO CONTACT THE EMBASSY FOR INFORMATION
AND ADVICE.

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